GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7143
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
SUGGESTIONS OF NIRD
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have seen the suggestions published by the National Institute of Rural Development in its first report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement some of these suggestions in Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The salient features of suggestions given in the Report are furnished below:

i) Improvement in irrigation facilities, land productivity and agricultural wages will improve the levels of living of rural people. The key to poverty reduction lies in efforts to raise agricultural growth, investments in social and other infrastructure and human capital formation.

ii) Social development and Infrastructure development help in reducing poverty and therefore investments in such areas should be stepped up.

iii) Environmental degradation contributes to poverty and therefore people`s involvement in management of environment is essential for ecological restoration.

iv) Government of India allocation for Rural Development has been steadily increasing over the years and Centre has taken leadership role in rural development, while investments in state budgets have shown decline.

v) In order to improve the efficiency of implementation of programmes, there is a need to decentralize the development system and rightly so Panchayati Raj Institutions should be strengthened.

vi) There is a need for revamping the existing programmes of Ministry of Rural Development in order to provide focussed approach for poverty alleviation.

(c)&(d): Ministry of Rural Development has already taken measures for alleviation of poverty inall the States including Maharashtra. As a measure of remedial steps towards alleviation of poverty, the Government have already started various restructured programmes. Some of the programmes are as follows: -

(a) Restructured self-employment programmes - Swaranjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana;

(b) Employment Assurance Scheme;

(c) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana;

(d) Prime Minister`s Gramodaya Scheme;

(e) National Social Assistance Programme, etc.

(e): Does not arise.